

B. CLAIMS

1 1. (currently amended) A game ball comprising:
2 a molded spherical carcass having an outer surface, the outer surface defining
3 at least one inwardly extending channel; and
4 a one-piece seamless cover, the cover being free of a backing layer, the cover
5 surrounding the carcass and bonded to the carcass without an adhesive, the cover having a
6 thickness less than 0.5 mm, the cover configured to conform to the contours of the outer
7 surface such that the at least one inwardly extending channel of the carcass forms at least one
8 elongate recess in an outer surface of the cover.

1 2. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed
2 of a material selected from the group consisting of a wet process polyurethane, a dry process
3 polyurethane, a coagulated polyurethane, other polyurethanes and combinations thereof.

1 3. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the carcass includes
2 a bladder and at least one thread wound around the bladder.

1 4. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 3, wherein the carcass further
2 includes at least one panel molded over the thread-wound bladder.

1 5. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed
2 of a material having a density within the range of 200-1200 kg/m³.

1 6. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed
2 of a material having a density within the range of 400-600 kg/m³.

1 7. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed
2 of a material having a density within the range of 250-350 kg/m³.

1 8. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed
2 of a material having a density within the range of 600-850 kg/m³.

1 9. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1 wherein the cover has a
2 thickness within the range of 0.1 mm to 0.5 mm.

1 10. (canceled) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover has a thickness of less
2 than 0.5 mm.

1 11. (currently amended) A game ball comprising:
2 a molded carcass having an outer surface, the outer surface defining at least
3 one inwardly extending channel; and
4 a cover layer formed without a backing layer and without seams, the cover
5 layer substantially surrounding the carcass, the cover layer having a thickness less than 0.8
6 mm, the cover layer being selected from the group consisting of a sprayed-on cover, a painted-
7 on cover, an electro-statically painted-on cover, a brushed-on cover, a dipped-on cover, and
8 combinations thereof, the cover configured to conform to the contours of the outer surface
9 such that the at least one inwardly extending channel of the carcass forms at least one elongate
10 recess in an outer surface of the cover.

1 12. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is a
2 one-piece, integrally formed structure.

1 13. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer is
2 formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a urethane, a wet process
3 polyurethane, a dry process polyurethane, a coagulated polyurethane, other polyurethanes, a
4 plastic, and combinations thereof.

1 14. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the carcass includes
2 an inflatable bladder and at least one thread wound around the bladder.

1 15. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 14 wherein the carcass further
2 includes at least one panel molded over the thread-wound bladder.

1 16. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 200-1200 kg/m³.

1 17. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 400-600 kg/m³.

1 18. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 250-350 kg/m³.

1 19. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 600-850 kg/m³.

1 20. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer is
2 formed around the carcass without the use of an adhesive agent.

1 21. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 further comprising an
2 adhesive agent at least partially connecting the cover layer to the carcass.

1 22. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer has a
2 thickness within the range of 0.1 mm to 0.5 mm.

1 23. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the game ball is
2 selected from the group consisting of a basketball, a football, a soccer ball and a volleyball.

1 24. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer has
2 a thickness of less than 0.5 mm.

1 25. (canceled) A game ball comprising a spherical carcass and a cover, the cover
2 including a thin layer of backing cloth and a cover including a resilient cover material
3 integrally formed with the thin layer of backing, the cover material selected from the group

4 consisting of a wet process polyurethane, a dry process polyurethane, a coagulated
5 polyurethane, other polyurethanes and combinations thereof, the cover surrounding the carcass
6 and having a thickness less than 0.8 mm.

1 26. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25 wherein the cover is bonded to carcass
2 with an adhesive.

3 27. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density
4 within the range of 200-1200 kg/m³.

1 28. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density
2 within the range of 400-600 kg/m³.

1 29. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density
2 within the range of 250-350 kg/m³.

1 30. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a a
2 density within the range of 600-850 kg/m³.

1 31. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover has a thickness
2 within the range of 0.2 and 0.75 mm.

1 32. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover has a thickness of
2 less than 0.5 mm.

1 33. (new) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of the carcass
2 further defines a plurality of outwardly projecting pebbles separated by a plurality of valleys.

1 34. (new) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the outer surface of the carcass
2 further defines a plurality of outwardly projecting pebbles separated by a plurality of valleys.